

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 9, and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by Yabuki (U.S. Patent No.: 5,796,351). Claims 10, 11, 14, 15, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yabuki. Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yabuki in view of Tanikoshi et al. (U.S. Patent No.: 5,598,572). Claims 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yabuki in view of Albukerk et al. (U.S. Patent No.: 5,929,848). Finally, claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yabuki in view of Kennedy, III et al. (U.S. Patent No.: 5,966,658).

§ 102(a) Rejections (Yabuki) - Claims 1-6, 9, and 18-21

Claims 1-6, 9, and 18-21 are rejected over Yabuki for the reasons set forth on pages 2-7 of the present Office Action.

With respect to independent claim 1, Applicant amends this claim, as indicated herein, and submits that Yabuki does not teach or suggest at least, “wherein the connection is automatically initiated when the wireless terminal enters the service region,” as recited in amended claim 1. That is, Applicant submits that, according to Yabuki, communication for service is initiated as a user manually selects an exhibit and a host computer corresponding to a wireless connection device receives an identification code of the selected exhibit. On the other hand, according to the present invention, as recited in amended claim 1, there exists a service area, and a connection is initiated as the wireless terminal enters the service area. Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that independent claim 1 is patentably

distinguishable over Yabuki. Independent claims 9 and 18 are patentable at least based on reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to claim 1. Claim 19 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 18.

With respect to dependent claim 3, Applicant amends this claim, as set forth herein, and submits that Yabuki does not teach or suggest at least, “setting up an address of the wireless terminal, for connecting and communicating with the wireless terminal,” as recited in amended claim 3. That is, the Examiner alleges that the identification code mentioned in Yabuki corresponds to the claimed address described in claim 3. However, the identification code that is mentioned throughout Yabuki (e.g., at column 5, lines 49-63, Abstract, etc.) only relates to a target exhibition object. On the other hand, the claimed address is that of a wireless terminal. Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that dependent claim 3 is patentably distinguishable over Yabuki.

With respect to dependent claim 4, Applicant submits that this claim is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 3.

With respect to claim 5, the Examiner alleges that Yabuki inherently discloses an exhibition information server that comprises the elements recited in claim 5, and also cites portions of Yabuki that allegedly correspond to the claimed elements of claim 5.

First, in response to the Examiner’s inherency argument, Applicant submits that it would not naturally occur that the elements recited in claim 5 would constitute an exhibition information server. For example, an exhibition information server would not necessarily need to

have an exhibition menu providing unit nor a connection/disconnection processing unit that performs the respective functions set forth in claim 5.

Further, with respect to the connection/disconnection processing unit set forth in claim 5, nowhere in Yabuki is a corresponding component even mentioned, and the Examiner fails to identify a corresponding component. Moreover, even if there was a connection/disconnection processing unit constituting the general control unit 10, which allegedly corresponds to the exhibition information server, such a connection/disconnection processing unit would not necessarily perform a function of enabling a wireless connection device to set up the connection or disconnection to/from a wireless terminal, as described in claim 5.

Further, with respect to the Examiner's allegations regarding the exhibition menu providing unit set forth in claim 5, Applicant submits that no such component of Yabuki performs a function of providing data including an exhibition information menu so that the wireless terminal connected to said at least one of the wireless connection devices can read information about the exhibits. That is, the Examiner appears to believe that the cited portions of Yabuki teach the exhibition providing unit as described in claim 5. However, Applicant submits that Yabuki only discloses that a terminal is used to select a target exhibition object, from which is received an identification code, which is then used to retrieve information on the exhibition object. However, Yabuki does not teach or suggest that an exhibition menu providing unit that is provided in an exhibition information server provides data including an exhibition information menu. That is, the Examiner impermissibly used hindsight reasoning in concluding that any

data, including an exhibition information menu, that is provided would have come from an exhibition menu providing unit that is part of an exhibition information server.

Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claim 5 is patentably distinguishable over Yabuki.

With respect to claim 6, Applicant submits that this claim is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 5.

With respect to independent claim 20, Applicant submits that Yabuki does not teach or suggest at least, “receiving an initial screen from the wireless connection device in order to read exhibition information,” as recited in claim 20. That is, even if, *assuming arguendo*, Yabuki discloses that an initial screen is used in order to read exhibition information in the wireless terminal, there is no teaching or suggestion that said initial screen is received from the wireless connection device. Such an initial screen could be a pre-developed screen that is saved in the memory of the wireless terminal and not received from the wireless connection device. Nowhere does Yabuki even mention that the initial screen is received from the wireless connection device. Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claim 20 is patentably distinguishable over Yabuki.

With respect to dependent claim 21, Applicant submits that this claim is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 20.

§ 103(a) Rejections (Yabuki) - Claims 10, 11, 14, 15, and 17

With respect to dependent claim 10, Applicant amends this claim, as indicated herein, and submits that Yabuki does not teach or suggest at least, “providing initial screen data

including an exhibition information menu, from a device different from the wireless terminal to the wireless terminal,” as recited in amended claim 10. That is, Applicant submits that claim 10 is patentable over Yabuki at least for reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to claim 20.

With respect to claims 11, 14, 15, and 17, Applicant submits that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 10.

Further, with respect to claim 15, the Examiner acknowledges that Yabuki does not disclose detecting a position of the wireless connection device connected to the wireless terminal and detecting a position of the exhibit selected by the wireless terminal, however the Examiner alleges that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art for the invention of Yabuki to include these features. In response, Applicant traverses the Examiner’s rejection of claim 15, and submits that it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to detect a position of the wireless connection device as well as a position of the exhibit selected by the wireless terminal in order to provide the exact exhibition information request to a user. The Examiner only came up with this conclusion that the features of claim 15 are obvious after viewing the specification as filed, as there is no teaching or suggestion in the reference or in the art that renders the features of claim 15 obvious. In other words, the Examiner has failed to demonstrate that it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to detect a position of a wireless connection device, for example, to provide exact exhibition information; such information could be provided by other means including, for example, by requiring a user to simply enter more specific information about an exhibit. Therefore, at least based on the

foregoing, Applicant submits that the Examiner has utilized impermissible hindsight reasoning in concluding that particular features of claim 15 are obvious.

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§ 103(a) Rejections (Yabuki/Tanikoshi) - Claims 7 and 8

With respect to claims 7 and 8, first, Applicant submits that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 5. Tanikoshi does not make up for the deficiencies of Yabuki.

Further, with respect to claim 7, the Examiner acknowledges that Yabuki does not disclose a database for storing position information of the wireless connection device connected to the wireless terminal, however the Examiner alleges that Tanikoshi makes up for the deficiencies of Yabuki in this regard. Applicant submits that one skilled in the art would not have been led to combine the teachings of Yabuki and Tanikoshi at least because the respective applied references are directed to different systems with different purposes. Yabuki, for example, relates to a system for providing visitors with information about exhibition objects in exhibition facilities such as museums, trade fairs, zoos, and factories. *See column 1, lines 6-10 of Yabuki.* On the other hand, Tanikoshi relates to an information terminal system for gaining information on components in a plant or adjusting the components when a maintenance worker, walking around the areas of the plant, maintains or inspects each component. *See column 1, lines 7-12 of Tanikoshi.* Therefore, at least because the teachings of the different references are directed to different industries with different purposes, Applicant submits that one skilled in the art would not have been motivated to combine the applied references.

Yet further, with respect to claim 8, the Examiner cites database system 12 of Figure 1 as well as other portions of Yabuki as allegedly satisfying the features set forth in claim 8. In response, Applicant submits that nowhere do the cited figures nor the text of Yabuki even show or mention a wireless connection information database for storing the information of the wireless terminal connected to the wireless connection device.

Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 7 and 8 are patentably distinguishable over Yabuki and Tanikoshi, either alone or in combination.

§ 103(a) Rejections (Yabuki/Albukerk) - Claims 12 and 13

With respect to claims 12 and 13, Applicant submits that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their direct or indirect dependencies from claim 10. Albukerk does not make up for the deficiencies of Yabuki.

§ 103(a) Rejection - (Yabuki/Kennedy) - Claim 16

With respect to claim 16, the Examiner acknowledges that Yabuki does not disclose the features set forth in claim 16, however the Examiner alleges that Kennedy makes up for the deficiencies of Yabuki. In response, Applicant submits that claim 16 is patentable at least by virtue of its indirect dependency from claim 10. Kennedy does not make up for the deficiencies of Yabuki.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

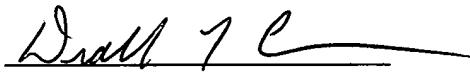
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U. S. Application No. 09/973,045

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q64313

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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